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## Kentucky Black Water Task Force Issues Findings

In 2000, one of the nation's worst blackwater spills occurred near Inez, Kentucky dumping 250 million gallons of coal slurry into nearby waterways. The Martin County Coal Corporation spill disrupted public water systems, destroyed aquatic life and caused significant environmental degradation. The spill also heightened public awareness of the problem of blackwater spills in Kentucky.

On average, Kentucky experiences at least one blackwater spill a month. Seventeen black water spills were confirmed in 2003 and 18 in 2004. When coal slurry is discharged into Kentucky's streams, a plume of black water can often be observed for miles downstream of the discharge point. These discharges are referred to as black water spills, and they can occur from coal slurry impoundments, slurry pipelines, sediment ponds, runoff from improperly maintained roads or other coal mining-

[Continued page 6.....see Black Water Task Force](#)



*The Martin County Coal slurry spill near Inez dumped 250 gallons of slurry into nearby waterways.*

## EQC Executive Director Leslie Cole Retires

After 20 years, EQC executive director Leslie Cole has announced her retirement effective May 31, 2005. Cole was appointed to EQC in 1985 by Governor Martha Layne Collins and has served under 5 Governors. As director, Cole has worked to promote greater public participation and partnerships in solving the state's environmental challenges. Some of EQC's accomplishments under Cole's tenure are:

- Helping to secure the first public participation Superfund Technical Assistance Grant in the nation for the Concerned Citizens of Fleming County for the Maxey Flats Radioactive Waste Site.
- Production of the State of Kentucky's Environment report along with 4 updates to assess long-term trends and conditions of the state's air, water and land resources.
- Passage of legislation creating the Environmental Education Council, the Kentucky Heritage Conservation Fund and the Biodiversity Task Force.
- Development of the first set of children's environmental health indicators.

Ms. Cole plans to spend more time with her family and her children Evan (7) and Katie (6). She also plans to stay involved in environmental issues and children's issues.



*EQC Director Leslie Cole (right) and EQC Commissioner Patty Wallace chat during the 2005 EQC Earth Day Ceremony.*

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**Air Toxic Trends and Indicators**  
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## EQC Commissioners

Lindell Ormsbee, *Chair*  
Lexington  
Betsy Bennett, *Vice-Chair*  
Louisville  
Patty Wallace, *Louisa*  
Gary Revlett, *Shelbyville*  
Gordon Garner, *Prospect*  
Eugene Zick, *Russellville*  
Laura Knoth, *Grand Rivers*

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## STATE NEWS

### Utility to Offer Electric Rate Discounts to Customers Redeveloping Brownfields

The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) recently approved a proposal by The Union Light, Heat & Power Company (ULH&P) to offer discounted electric rates to customers who create jobs, particularly on old industrial sites (brownfields) or in urban redevelopment areas.

This is the first time that the PSC has allowed a utility to make such rates to target urban and brownfield redevelopment to promote and assisting economic development in Northern Kentucky.

ULH&P serves about 128,000 electric customers in six Kentucky counties in the Cincinnati area. The PSC order and other documents in the case are available on the PSC Web site, [psc.ky.gov](http://psc.ky.gov). The case number is 2004-00253.

### EPA Removes Fayette and Mercer County from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment List

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the state's request to remove Fayette and Mercer counties from a list of counties designated as failing to meet a new federal standard for emissions of particulate matter, known as PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard was developed to better regulate small particles such as dust and soot that can lodge deep in the lungs if inhaled, posing a health risk. The Kentucky counties now listed as "nonattainment" for PM<sub>2.5</sub> are Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties in northern Kentucky; Bullitt and Jefferson counties in the Louisville area; and Boyd County and a portion of Lawrence County in the Ashland area. These counties will have until April 2010 to reach attainment status. Until EPA finalizes the implementation guidance later this year, it is unclear what types of emission reductions will be required in these nonattainment areas.

### State Pipeline Safety Committee Formed

The Governor has created a committee to advise state and federal officials regarding on opportunities to improve pipeline safety. The formation of the committee comes after two recent pipeline incidents, including one in Floyd County in which nine persons were injured and five homes were destroyed by the explosion of a natural gas liquids pipeline and an oil pipeline spill in the Owen-Carroll County area that dumped thousands of gallons of oil into the Kentucky River. The 10-member Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee is composed of state agency officials. Under the Federal Pipeline Safety Improvement Act, state advisory committees make recommendations to the federal transportation secretary. The law provides that the transportation secretary has 90 days to respond to any state recommendation and to explain why, or why not, action was taken on recommendations.

### Clean Water Act Section 404 Permitting Task Force Begins Review

A state work group has been created to study how the state could issue environmental permits under the federal Clean Water Act Section 404 program. Section 404 regulates activities that result in a discharge of rock, soil, concrete or other fill material in waters. This includes the use of valley fills to dispose of materials from mountaintop mining. The work group will determine whether a state regulatory program can be created that will streamline the current 404 permitting process, improve environmental protection and mitigation practices and offer comparable environmental protection to the federal program.

The members of the panel are: Sen. Robert Stivers; Rep. Robin Webb; Judge-Executive Rodney Kirtley, Muhlenburg County; Mayor David Cartmell, Maysville; Tom FitzGerald, Kentucky Resources Council; Robert Addington, Appalachian Fuels; Don Bowles, Charolais Coal; Laura Knoth, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Tandy Patrick, Greenbaum, Doll and McDonald attorneys; Bob Weiss, Kentucky Home Builders Association; George Athanasakes, Fuller Mossbarger Scott and May engineers; Susan Bush, commissioner of the Department for Natural Resources; Lloyd Cress, commissioner of the Department for Environmental Protection; Steve Coleman, director of the Division of Conservation; John Horne, EPPC; David Jones, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet deputy state highway engineer and EPPC Secretary LaJuana Wilcher.

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## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

**May 22 - EarthSave Louisville's Healthy People, Healthy Planet Fun Fest** Featuring the 12th Annual Taste of Health. Hall of Fame Atrium at Slugger Field, Louisville. See <http://louisville.earthsave.org/>

**May 22-25 - Ninth National Watershed Conference** of the National Watershed Coalition. Drawbridge Inn, Fort Mitchell. The theme of the conference is The Watershed Program at 50: Reflections on the Past and Forecasts for the Future. See <http://www.watershedcoalition.org/events.html>

**May 24-26 - Energy Managers Workshop.** Louisville. Contact: Greg Guess, E-mail: [Gregory.Guess@ky.gov](mailto:Gregory.Guess@ky.gov) Phone: (502) 564-7192 or toll free in Kentucky (800) 282-0868

**May 25-26 - Kentucky Rural Water Association - Operator Expo and Golf Scramble.** Will include water and wastewater training sessions. Nelson Co. Fair Ground and Woodlawn Springs Golf Course, Bardstown. Register on-line at [www.krwa.org](http://www.krwa.org) or call (270) 843-2291.

**June 1 -3 - Kentucky Oil & Gas 69th Annual Meeting.** Embassy Suites, Lexington. Contact: [info@kyoilgas.org](mailto:info@kyoilgas.org)

**June 4 - Kentucky Conservation Committee Annual Meeting.** Salato Center Game Farm Complex, Frankfort. Contact Hilary Lambert at [Hilary@KWalliance.org](mailto:Hilary@KWalliance.org)

**June 7-8 - Kentucky Rural Water Association - Drinking Water Training Session.** Drinking Water Technology and Compliance and the Kentucky Small Drinking Water System Peer Review Program. Paintsville Community Center, Paintsville. Register on-line at [www.krwa.org](http://www.krwa.org) or call (270) 843-2291.

**June 9 - Project Learning Tree Workshop at Blanton Old Growth Forest -** Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission is sponsoring a Project Learning Tree workshop at Blanton Forest for educators. Contact: Kyle Napier at (606) 633-0362.

**June 13-17 - Kentucky NEED Energy Conference for Educators.** Traveling Tour of Western Kentucky Energy Sites. The tour begins and ends in Madisonville. Contact: Karen Reagor, 859-578-0312 , e-Mail: [kreagor@need.org](mailto:kreagor@need.org) or see <http://www.need.org/needpdf/6-05%20ECE%20Brochure.pdf>

**June 13-14 and June 16-17 - Teacher Training at the Louisville Zoo.** Bring the Wonders of Wildlife to Your Students. Contact Marcelle Gianelloni at 502-238-5328 or e-mail [marcelle.gianelloni@loukymetro.org](mailto:marcelle.gianelloni@loukymetro.org)

**June 18 - Ohio River Sweep.** River Sweep is a nationwide litter and debris cleanup of the Ohio River and its tributaries. Volunteers from public organizations, civic groups, recreational clubs and the general public in six states bordering the river will band together to pick up debris littering the riverbanks. To volunteer, call 1-800-359-3977 or see <http://www.orsanco.org/comm/riversweep/rs.htm>

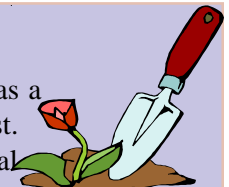
## Contest Promotes Sustainable Landscapes

The Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District has been selected by the U.S. EPA as a grant recipient to host the nation's first Juried Low-Maintenance Landscaping Design Contest.

Homeowners as well as professional landscaping designers are eligible to compete for national recognition and cash prizes of between \$500 and \$1,000 in the nation's first local competition showcasing sustainable and reproducible low-maintenance landscape designs. Low-maintenance landscaping embraces strategies and practices designed to reduce the use of gasoline powered, high polluting lawn care equipment, frequent chemical applications and excessive water consumption.

Entries will be accepted from nine Kentucky counties: Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble and the Indiana counties of Clark and Floyd. Deadline for entries is June 30, 2005.

For an application and details see <http://www.apcd.org/>.



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## ***PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS***

This is not an official listing. Contact the divisions for information about these permits and other public notices

### **Ky. Division of Water - KPDES Water Discharge Notices/Hearings**

Contact Ann Workman, (502) 564-3410 or see <http://www.water.ky.gov/publicassistance/notices>

**KUTTAWA ASPHALT TERMINAL** (Marathon Ashland Petroleum, LLC), Kuttawa (Lyon Co.) - This permit action involves an existing discharge of storm water runoff and hydrostatic test water from a bulk asphalt terminal that enters Lake Barkley – Cumberland River.

**LOUISVILLE AND JEFFERSON COUNTY RIVERPORT AUTHORITY**, Louisville (Jefferson Co.) - This permit action involves a new source discharge of equipment wash down water, storm water runoff and coal pile runoff from a coal loading and storage facility that enters the Ohio River.

**OSRAM SYLVANIA, INCORPORATED – VERSAILLES LAMP PLANT**, Versailles (Woodford Co.) - This permit action involves an existing discharge of storm water runoff from a manufacturer of fluorescent lamps that enters an unnamed tributary to Griens Creek.

**SEQUOIA ENERGY, LLC, LIGGETT PREPARATION PLANT**, Liggett (Harlan Co.) - This permit action involves a new source discharge of process wastewater and storm water runoff from a coal preparation plant and associated areas that enters Catrons Creek.

**AMERICAN PRIDE PETROLEUM**, Somerset (Pulaski Co.) - This permit action involves a new discharge of storm water runoff from a petroleum bulk station and terminal wholesale facility (SIC Code 5171) that enters an unnamed tributary.

### **Ky. Division for Air Quality Permit Notices**

Contact: James Morse, (502) 573-3382 or see [http://www.air.ky.gov/homepage\\_repository/Public+Notices.htm](http://www.air.ky.gov/homepage_repository/Public+Notices.htm)

**THE ARKEMA GROUP, INC.**, (previously Atofina Chemicals, Inc.) Calvert City - Permit to expand the production capacity of the existing K-98. The Ozone Depletion Substances (ODS) emissions and criteria pollutants from the proposed construction are going to be less than the significance levels thus the construction project is not subject to 401 KAR 51:017, the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) regulation.

**GRIFFIN INDUSTRIES**, Russellville (Logan Co.) - Permit to operate an indirect heat exchangers and a rendering plant operation. The plant is classified as a Title V major source due to its emissions of sulfur dioxide.

**JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC.** Georgetown (Scott Co.) - Renewal of permit to operate a polyurethane foam automotive seat cushion production facility. The plant is classified as a Title V major source due to its emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds.

**URANIUM DISPOSITION SERVICE, LLC**, Paducah - Permit to operate a Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride Conversion Facility. The plant is classified as a Conditional Major source due to its emissions of a hazardous air pollutant greater than a major source threshold. This permit contains practically enforceable limitations to restrict this source's potential emissions to less than a major source threshold. Construction authorized by this permit will limit the increase in the emissions of gaseous Hydrogen Fluoride to less than 1 ton per year.

**TEMPLE-INLAND**, Maysville - Permit to operate a recycled linerboard and corrugated medium paper mill. The plant is classified as a Conditional Major source due to its having potential emissions of regulated air pollutants greater than a major source threshold. This permit contains practically enforceable limits to restrict this source's potential emissions to less than a major source threshold.

### **U.S. EPA Underground Injection - Notices/Hearings**

**WAL-MART STORES**, Oak Grove (Christian Co.) - Proposed permit to construct and operate and Class V injection well to inject storm water runoff from the super center site into an improved sinkhole. Contact: George Ford, (404) 562-9307



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## PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS

### Electric Generation and Transmission Siting Board - Notices/Hearings

**DTE WICKLIFFE, LLC, AN AFFILIATE OF DTE ENERGY SERVICES, INC.**, Wickliffe (Ballard Co.) - Receipt of an application requesting a construction certificate for a 13-megawatt generating plant about a mile south of Wickliffe. The plant would be located on the grounds of the Mead-Westvaco paper mill and would be powered by steam that the paper mill produces by burning wood wastes. Most of the electricity generated would be sold back to the paper mill, with the remainder sold on the open, wholesale market. The application and related documents are available on the Siting Board Web site: [http://psc.ky.gov/agencies/psc/siting\\_board/merchant.htm](http://psc.ky.gov/agencies/psc/siting_board/merchant.htm) or call (502) 564-3940.

### Ky. Division of Waste Management - Solid Waste Notices/Hearings

Contact: Ron Gruzsky, (502) 564-6716, or see <http://www.waste.ky.gov/news>

**MILL CREEK LANDFILL, LOUISVILLE GAS & ELECTRIC**, Louisville, (Jefferson Co.) - Application to horizontally expand the waste area of the Mill Creek Station landfill by 57 acres for the disposal of coal combustion by-products from the Mill Creek Generating Station.

### Ky. Division of Waste Management - Hazardous Waste Notices/Hearings

**BLUEGRASS STATION** (formerly Lexington Bluegrass Army Depot), Lexington (Fayette Co.) - Tentative approval of a final cleanup remedy and institutional controls for the entire LBAD facility and its various sites. Past operations at the facility caused various soil and groundwater contamination. The Army conducted environmental studies at the facility to determine the extent of these impacts. These studies found that soil, sediment and groundwater contamination required cleanup and various institutional controls to protect human health and the environment. By approving this plan, the Cabinet feels that the Army has done everything necessary to clean up and/or control the resulting contamination and impacts left in place. **A public hearing is scheduled for June 1 at 7 pm** at the Bluegrass Station, Bldg. 18, 5751 Briar Hill Road, Lexington. Contact DeDe Grisham at (502) 564-6716, ext. 163 or e-mail [DeDe.Grisham@ky.gov](mailto:DeDe.Grisham@ky.gov).

## FEDERAL NOTICES/INFORMATION

**Office of Surface Mining Reforestation Rule** - Proposal for minor changes to regulations that govern topsoil replacement and revegetation success standards. These revisions would encourage species diversity on reclaimed lands; provide flexibility to States in using new vegetative success standards and sampling techniques; define success standards for undeveloped land; remove shelter belts from the list of post mining land uses subject to success standards; remove impediments to reforestation of mined lands. To view proposed rule see <http://www.osmre.gov/pdf/fr031705.pdf>. For more information contact: Robert Postle, Office of Surface Mining, (303) 844-1400, extension 1469 or e-mail [bpostle@osmre.gov](mailto:bpostle@osmre.gov).

**Daniel Boone National Forest - Southfork Coal Lease Environmental Assessment** - Add 64.51 acres of coal rights to all for deep mining in McCreary and Whitley counties. Contact: Corey Miller, (859)743-3149 or e-mail [cmiller09@fs.fed.us](mailto:cmiller09@fs.fed.us)

**Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area Plan** - The National Park Service has issued the final plan that will guide the management of the park for the next 20 years and will serve as the over arching policy under which site specific plans will be prepared. The final plan and EIS analyzes the impacts associated with four alternative approaches to managing the park, including the agency preferred alternative. The final plan contains the alternatives and analyses as well as responses to all substantive public comments received during the public review period. The plan can be viewed at [www.nps.gov/biso](http://www.nps.gov/biso).

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## Black Water Task Force, *Continued from page 1*

related activities.

The Black Water Task Force was formed in January 2004 to assess the extent of the problem and make recommendations to minimize the frequency and severity of black water discharges. The group has met 17 times during the past 15 months and released its findings in April 2005.

### Health and Environmental Impacts

The Black Water Task Force concluded that chronic health effects from black water spills are not anticipated. Health effects are expected to be no higher than those from typical exposure to soils in Kentucky because of the similarity between the metals in slurry samples and ambient soil and sediment levels. The primary effect of black water spills on the environment include the smothering of organisms through interference with the gill surface and habitat destruction.

### Recommendations

Emergency Response and enforcement. The group suggested an internal procedure be developed to allow various state agencies to better coordinate response to a black water spill. The Division of Water and the Division of Waste have now developed a joint protocol for coordinating their response to black water spills and for taking appropriate enforcement action. This has improved the ability of both agencies to respond to and identify the source of black water spills. The task force also recommended that all high and moderate hazards impoundments be required to have an emergency action plan in the event of failure.

Best Management Practices. The task force recommended a number of measures to strengthen design and maintenance criteria for high pressure pipelines used to transport slurry. Additional practices were also suggested including improving runoff control, providing for emergency containment facilities and better maintenance of sediment ponds.

To view the Black Water Task Force Report visit <http://www.environment.ky.gov/> and click on Black Water Task Force report.

## Citizens To Monitor Water Quality in Martin County



2000 Martin County Coal slurry spill near Inez, Ky.

The state has appropriated funds to allow the citizens of Martin County to test and monitor the quality of their drinking water. The budget bill passed by the 2005 General Assembly appropriated \$150,000 from the Martin County Coal Trust Fund to provide local residents with the tools and resources necessary to independently assess the impact of the Martin County Coal slurry spill on drinking water supplies and public health.

The Oct. 11, 2000 Martin County Coal spill, considered one of the worst in the southeast, resulted in the release of 250 million gallons of coal slurry near Inez. The sludge, which contained measurable amounts of heavy metals including arsenic, mercury, lead, cadmium, copper and chromium, contaminated water supplies and destroyed aquatic life in Wolf and Coldwater creeks. The spill severely impacted roughly 70 miles of streams. The coal company has been required to restore the waterways impacted by the spill.

Based on a 2003 survey by Eastern Kentucky University, a majority of households in the Inez area continue to purchase bottled water and have expressed strong concerns about the impact of the spill on the quality of drinking water. Funding will support water testing and the development of recommendations to improve the drinking water system. Eastern Kentucky University and the Martin County Fiscal Court will oversee the year-long project. For more information contact [Stephanie.Mcspirit@EKU.EDU](mailto:Stephanie.Mcspirit@EKU.EDU)

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## EQC ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR PROGRAM

Reporting on environmental trends, conditions and issues of concern in Kentucky

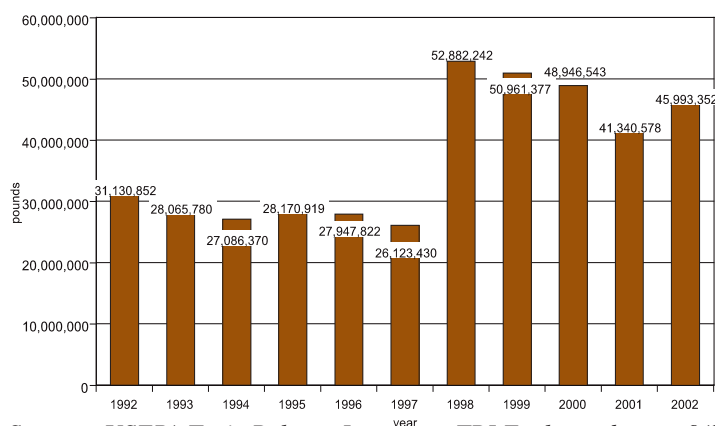
### Air Toxics in Kentucky

#### 86% of Air Toxics Released in 15 Counties

Between 1998 and 2002, 239 million pounds of hazardous air pollutants were released to the air in Kentucky. The good news is that reported releases of hazardous air pollutants have declined in Kentucky since 1998 when new federal reporting requirements took effect; from 58.8 million pounds in 1998 to 49.9 million pounds in 2002—a 13 percent reduction.

Eighty six percent of the toxic air releases in 2002 occurred in 15 counties: Ballard, Carroll, Clark, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Marshall, McCracken, Mercer, Muhlenburg, Pulaski, and Simpson. The top five counties with toxic air releases that year were: Mason (5.2 million pounds), Lawrence (4.98 million pounds), Carroll (4.56 million pounds), Jefferson (3.83 million pounds) and Marshall (3.22 million pounds).

#### Hazardous Air Pollutant Releases in Kentucky



Source: USEPA Toxic Release Inventory, TRI Explorer dataset 9/04

#### Electric Utilities Release 65 Percent of Toxic Emissions

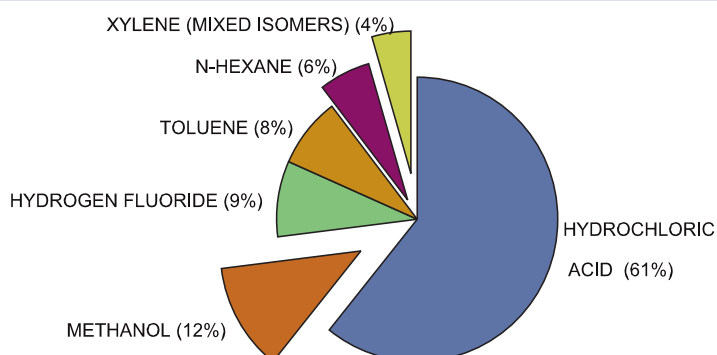
A handful of industries are responsible for the majority of hazardous air pollutants reported released into the air in Kentucky. The largest reporting source of hazardous air emissions in the state was the electric utility industry, which accounted for 65 percent (26.7 million pounds) of the toxics released to Kentucky's air in 2002, compared to 29.2 million pounds in 1998—a 9 percent reduction.

Hydrochloric acid aerosols were the largest single source of toxic chemicals released into the air by the electric utility industry in 2002 (23.8 million pounds) followed by hydrogen fluoride (2.9 million pounds). East Kentucky Power Spurlock Station in Mason County led in electric utility releases with 5 million pounds of hydrochloric acid aerosol emissions in 2002.

#### Highly Toxic Emissions Include Mercury

The U.S. EPA has identified certain toxic chemicals that pose the greatest risks to public health. These chemicals, called Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxics (PBTs), are highly toxic, long-lasting substances that can build up in the food chain to levels that are harmful to human and ecosystem health. They are associated with a range of adverse human health effects, including

#### Hazardous Air Pollutants Released to the Air in Kentucky (2002)



Source: USEPA Toxic Release Inventory, TRI Explorer dataset 9/04

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## ***EQC ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR PROGRAM*** ***Reporting on environmental trends, conditions and issues of concern in Kentucky***

### **Air Toxics in Kentucky**

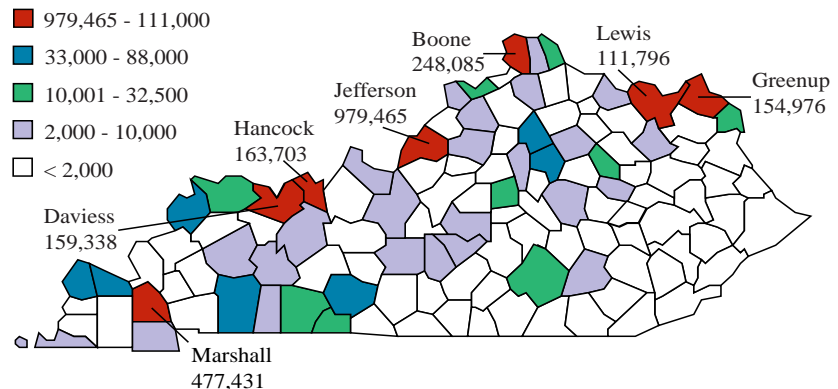
effects on the nervous system, reproductive and developmental problems, cancer, and genetic impacts.

PBTs include chemicals such as mercury, dioxins, and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). During 2002, 65,859 pounds of PBTs were released to the air in Kentucky compared to 91,863 in 2000--a 3 percent reduction. Polycyclic aromatic compounds were the largest reported PBT released to the air, with 27 facilities releasing 29,681 pounds in 2002 compared to 56,133 pounds in 2000--a drop of 47 percent.

EQC also reviewed the release of carcinogens as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Total OSHA carcinogens released to the air in 2002 was 3,094,240 pounds compared to 3,321,138 in 2000--a seven percent reduction. The most commonly released OSHA carcinogen released to the air was styrene (644,517 pounds). Jefferson County had the largest OSHA carcinogen air releases in the state during 2002 with 979,465 pounds, followed by Marshall County with 477,431 pounds and Boone County with 248,085 pounds.

#### **OSHA Carcinogens Released to the Air**

Pounds of OSHA Carcinogens Released to Kentucky's Air in 2002



Source: 2002 USEPA Toxic Release Inventory Database.

#### **State Plans to Increase Air Toxics Monitoring and More Fully Regulate Emissions**

The Kentucky Division for Air Quality operates 143 monitors which sample air quality in 31 counties. Twelve of those monitors sample for toxic air pollutants. Those monitors are primarily located in areas with the greatest industrial toxic air emissions. The Division is also in the process of establishing a mercury air monitoring network with approximately 15 monitoring locations. The agency reports that it will continue to operate four air toxic monitoring sites in Calvert City and the tri-state area. The division will also resume toxics sampling at urban sites in Lexington, Covington, Owensboro, Paducah and Bowling Green and continue the operation of its rural toxic trends monitoring site in Hazard as well as add a new site in Ohio County. The state plans to add new air toxics monitoring sites in Carroll, Gallatin and Hardin Counties.

There are no ambient standards for air toxics in Kentucky and emissions are regulated through air quality permits. Efforts are underway to begin to more fully regulate toxic air emissions in Kentucky. The Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet convened a task group in 2004 to develop an air toxics strategy for the state. The workgroup is comprised of 10 individuals representing the public interest, private and industry sectors. The group is developing recommendations for a state air toxics program and hopes to finalize its recommendations by the summer of 2005.

Meanwhile, the Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District is developing its own air toxics program known as Strategic Toxic Air Reduction (STAR). The program initially seeks to reduce the levels of 18 toxic chemicals that have been shown to exceed the federal cancer risk levels and will later address an additional 19 chemicals on a secondary list. The district hopes to finalize its regulations by summer 2005.



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## ***EQC ACTIVITIES***

### **EQC Issues Forestry Roundtable Report Findings**

The Environmental Quality Commission joined with the Kentucky Division of Forestry, the U.S. Forest Service, Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky to sponsor a roundtable to move Kentucky forward toward a sustainable forestry future.

The EQC Forestry Roundtable was held on September 9, 2004 at Natural Bridge State Park. The half-day roundtable began with a review and discussion of the preliminary findings of the 2003 U.S. Forest Inventory of Kentucky followed by a discussion of forest issues and opportunities. The roundtable was attended by 40 people representing the forest industry, state and federal government, academia, forest landowners, conservation groups, tourism interests and professional forestry consultants. Among some of the key issues discussed by the roundtable were:

- On average, Kentucky has lost 137 acres of forestland a day between 1988 and 2003 to other uses.
- Timber removals averaged 311.8 million cubic feet annually during the past decade. Trends reveal that timber removal rates have nearly doubled in the past 30 years.
- The primary wood industry was hard hit by the 2001 recession, losing some 173 firms between 2000 and 2001.

A summary report of the roundtable which includes a discussion of forest resource issues and challenges facing the state as well as actions to move Kentucky toward a sustainable forestry future can be viewed at [eqc.ky.gov](http://eqc.ky.gov).



### **EQC Recommends a Statewide Forest Summit**

The Environmental Quality Commission has recommended the state convene a forest summit. It has been 10 years since the last forest summit was held in Kentucky. Since that time Kentucky's forests have been ravaged by the Southern Pine Beetle and an updated forest survey has been completed. EQC believes the time is right for Kentucky to convene a Forest Summit to explore how we can work together to better sustain our forest resources and build a strong and healthy forest economy. Several organizations have joined with EQC to express support for a forest summit including:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| •The Kentucky Forest Industry Association | •The Kentucky Resources Council |
| •The University of Kentucky               | •Eastern Kentucky University    |
| •The Kentucky Woodland Owners Association | •Kentucky Heartwood             |
| •The Kentucky Department of Agriculture   | •U.S. Forest Service            |

The importance of our forest resources warrants that we work collectively to build and strengthen our forest economy while protecting the environment. This will require a new approach – one that recognizes the full value of our forests. Such a summit would be strengthened by the joint participation of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, the Commerce Cabinet and the Economic Development Cabinet. A summit is the proper venue to bring these and other interests together to develop a progressive action plan for our forest resources. To view the EQC recommendation see [www.eqc.ky.gov](http://www.eqc.ky.gov) and click on Forest Summit.

**The Environmental Quality Commission** is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues and monitors environmental conditions.

*The Environmental Quality Commission welcomes your input.*

Telephone -- (502)564-2150 ext. 160.

E-mail -- [EQC@ky.gov](mailto:EQC@ky.gov)

Web site -- [www.eqc.ky.gov](http://www.eqc.ky.gov)

Address -- Environmental Quality Commission, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort, KY 40601

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## ***EQC ACTIVITIES***

### **12 Communities Receive Earth Day Awards**

The Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission joined with the Kentucky League of Cities and the Kentucky Association of Counties to celebrate the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day and recognize 12 community initiatives that support job growth, environmental stewardship and social equity — the three pillars of sustainable communities. Kentucky communities are coming to understand that the environment can no longer be separate from the economy. Our economic health is directly linked to the health of the environment. Each is mutually reinforcing and interdependent to our well being and quality of life.

“Time and time again we have heard the argument that we must choose between jobs and a clean environment,” stated EQC Chair Lindell Ormsbee. “But experience and our Earth Day Award winners show the opposite is true. We can have a healthy environment, we can have a high quality of life and we can have a prosperous economy.”

The 12 sustainable community initiatives honored at the 2005 Earth Day Awards Ceremony were:

**Kentucky Artisan Heritage Trails**, Eastern Ky. University  
**Carnation/Nestle/Silgan Redevelopment Project**, Maysville

**The Preston Project**, Bath County

**The Partnership for a Green City**, University of Louisville,  
Jefferson County Public Schools, Metro Government

**Indoor Clean Air Ordinance** Lexington-Fayette UCG

**Regional Community Stewardship**, Boone, Campbell and Kenton Counties

**Strodes Creek Watershed Conservancy**, Clark County

**Elkhorn City Adventure —Where Nature Meets Culture**

**Concerned Citizens of Russellville and KP Hall**

**Lower Town Artist Relocation Program**, Paducah

**Kenton County Brownfield Initiative**

**Greenbelt System**, Bowling Green and Warren County Greenways Commission

EQC also presented two special awards at the ceremony:

**Public Service Award - Tom Bennett, Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**Lifetime Achievement Award - Patty Wallace, longtime public activist and EQC commissioner.**

Visit [www.eqc.ky.gov/eday/eday2005/](http://www.eqc.ky.gov/eday/eday2005/) to view photos and overviews of the 2005 EQC Earth Day Award winners.



*Mayor Teresa Isaac and Dr. Melinda Rowe accept an Earth Day Award from Betsy Bennett for the city of Lexington Indoor Clean Air Ordinance that bans smoking in public places.*



*University of Louisville President James Ramsey (right), Metro Louisville Deputy Mayor Joan Reihm and Jefferson County Public School Superintendent Dr. Stephen Daeschner (left) accept an Earth Day Award from Lindell Ormsbee, EQC for the Green City Partnership.*



*Sylvia Lovely, Director of the Kentucky League of Cities, presents Gary Epperson, Claire Sipple and Kenny Book with an Earth Day Award honoring the Strodes Creek Conservancy.*

## ***EQC ACTIVITIES***

### ***Energy Efficiency:***

#### ***A Pathway to a Sustainable Energy Future***

Kateri Callahan, President of the national Alliance to Save Energy, was the featured speaker at the 2005 EQC Earth Day Ceremony held on April 22, 2005 at the Governor's Mansion.

Energy efficiency is our country's greatest indigenous energy resource, according to Callahan. Over the past 30 years, studies show that energy efficiency and conservation measures are now displacing the need for 40 Quads of energy each year. This means that energy efficiency is contributing more than coal, nuclear, and even more than oil to meeting our country's demand for energy. Yet it remains a resource that can deliver even more – and more quickly, more cheaply and more cleanly than any other supply, given meaningful public policy support, noted Callahan.

Callahan attributes energy efficiency to federal policies and programs such as appliance standards, research and development, and the Energy Star program. Yet much more remains to be done to increase our nation's energy efficiency. Energy efficiency must play a central role in the nation's energy future. With only 2 percent of known world oil reserves within our domestic borders, flat natural gas production even as prices soar and an electricity grid that is under significant and growing stress in many regions of the country, there is simply no choice, stated Callahan. Our energy use also has impacts on planet Earth. The U.S. produces 25 percent of the world's carbon dioxide — by far the largest share of any country. In fact, the United States emits more carbon dioxide every year than China, India and Japan combined.

Callahan applauded Kentucky's comprehensive energy plan for its emphasis on energy efficiency. "I am impressed that the first nine recommendations all deal with advancing energy efficiency as an effective tool for saving energy, money and the environment," commented Callahan. "All too often policy makers and others treat energy efficiency as an afterthought so it is refreshing and encouraging to see that state leaders have recognized that energy efficiency must be a cornerstone to building a sustainable energy future." To view the state energy plan visit <http://www.energy.ky.gov/Kentucky+Energy+Plan.htm>.



*Kateri Callahan is presented a Kentucky Colonel by (left to right) EQC Chair Lindell Ormsbee, EPPC Sec. LaJuana Wilcher and EQC Commissioners Patty Wallace, Gary Revlett and Betsy Bennett.*

### ***EQC Meeting Announcement*** ***Black Water Spills: Issues and Actions***

***May 26, 2005 ♦ 1 p.m. - 3 p.m***

***Room 113, Capitol Annex, Frankfort, Kentucky***

- Black Water Task Force and actions to date - Susan Bush, Commissioner, Dept. of Natural Resources
- EQC action on the following proposed regulations:
  - Div. for Air – [50:045](#) Performance Tests and [50:017](#) Repeal of 50:016.
  - Div. of Water – [4:010](#) Water Withdrawal Permits.

*Visit the EQC Web site at [www.eqc.ky.gov](http://www.eqc.ky.gov) for agenda revisions and updates.*

***All EQC meetings are free and open to the public. The public is encouraged to attend EQC meetings and offer comments. Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids, interpreters and other services will be provided upon request by contacting EQC.***